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BISCUITS.

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RESUMPTION BY THE CROWN OF PREBYTERIAN CHURCH LAND AT WELLINGTON.

A large deputation representing the Presbyterian Church of New South Wales was introduced by Mr. J. Haynes, M.L.A., to the Minister for Public Instruction (Hon. J. Garrard) yesterday morning in reference to the resumption of and originally dedicated to the Church at Wellington, as a site for a church and manse. As the matter involved a serious precedent, and was considered by most of the speakers tantamount to "resumption" the importance of was pressed home vigorously by the deputation.

The following names were present—Messrs. Duggan,

M'Gowan, J. A. Hogue, and T. Baverst, M.L.C., Hon. William Walker, M.L.C., Messrs. J. H. Goodlet, J. Bough (of Wellington), Wm. C. Harrison (financial secretary of the Board of Education), Dr. John Hay, and Messrs. G. M'Innes, W. G. Macintosh, Alwyn Ewen, and J. Anid.

Mr. Haydon stated the case for the Church, and presented a petition signed by 629 residents of the district, and representing every sect and section of the people, in favour of and supporting it. The Government had dedicated in 1874 a piece of land for the use of a hall and school for the German Church purposes, and a hall and school for the English Church purposes, and the same was resumed in 1892 by the Department of Public Instruction for the purpose

been used for such purpose, and was not wanted for such. It still remained unfenced, and as the Crown land was adjoining if required, the deputation thought that in justice the assumption should be cancelled and re-delimited, as they were now prepared to build a house there if the site was available.

Mr. Garrard inquired if the petition was signed by members of the school board.

Mr. Haynes: I don't know whether they can write (Great laughter.)

Rev. O. McInnes pointed out that the Church had been agitating continuously for the last four years to get the land back without result, and as it was the first time any Government had meddled with the church grants it would be a very serious precedent.

(no time limits being stipulated), and not for payment. The department had asked them to make a claim for compensation, thereby acknowledging their right to the land. They wanted that particular site, however, as it was a most suitable one, and

Mr. Gurnard, in reply, said a great deal of work had been said should have been addressed to the Minister for Lands. In any established town like Wellington, for example, if the land granted was used for 10, 15, or 20 years, and all the other land taken, he thought the State would be perfectly justified in saying "We will take that for other Government purposes if they do not utilise it." He found that the Government had done that in 1892.

should be appropriated by the school for recreation and an application was made to the Lands Department by them to add this one and a half acre which they thought was Crown land. Then the department found out that it was already dedicated to the St. Andrew's Church, but insisting that the

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questionable, if the line is constructed, whether the question should not stop at a point 10 miles from the dam. The length of the line to this point is about 64 chains, and the estimated cost £160,362 2s 6d.

The report of the Railway Commission was presented to the House of Representatives on March 10, 1908. The Chief of the Commission estimates the cost of construction of a high standard line from Newcastle to Sydney at \$207,749,000. Annual operating expenses are estimated at \$1,000,000. Capital expenditure is \$5 per cent of the operating expenses, or \$50,000,000. The total cost of the line is \$257,749,000. The Commission estimates the cost of construction of a low standard line from Newcastle to Sydney at \$107,749,000. Annual operating expenses are estimated at \$500,000. Capital expenditure is \$5 per cent of the operating expenses, or \$25,000,000. The total cost of the line is \$132,749,000. The Commission estimates the cost of construction of a medium standard line from Newcastle to Sydney at \$157,749,000. Annual operating expenses are estimated at \$750,000. Capital expenditure is \$5 per cent of the operating expenses, or \$37,500,000. The total cost of the line is \$195,249,000. The Commission estimates the cost of construction of a high standard line from Newcastle to Sydney at \$207,749,000. Annual operating expenses are estimated at \$1,000,000. Capital expenditure is \$5 per cent of the operating expenses, or \$50,000,000. The total cost of the line is \$257,749,000. The Commission estimates the cost of construction of a low standard line from Newcastle to Sydney at \$107,749,000. Annual operating expenses are estimated at \$500,000. Capital expenditure is \$5 per cent of the operating expenses, or \$25,000,000. The total cost of the line is \$132,749,000. The Commission estimates the cost of construction of a medium standard line from Newcastle to Sydney at \$157,749,000. Annual operating expenses are estimated at \$750,000. Capital expenditure is \$5 per cent of the operating expenses, or \$37,500,000. The total cost of the line is \$195,249,000.

A meeting of members of the Waverley Benevolent Society was held at the council-chambers, Waverley, on Monday evening, when the Mayor of the borough (Alderman G. J. Waterhouse, J.P.) was

accounts for goods supplied were passed for payment. The subject of finance was discussed length. When several important suggestions were made for raising funds in aid of the society, Mr. Alfred Allen, P. P., promptly to deliver a public lecture in aid of the funds, the subject of which would be "England's Great Orators," with reference some of our Australian orators. Mr. Allen offered to devote the whole of the proceeds to the society, thus making the evening a grand success. It concluded the evening of the 15th instant for same.

CROWN LANDS.

Information regarding Crown lands for Homestead Selection and Settlement Lease, compiled by the Information Bureau of the Lands Department.

The following areas will be set apart during the

Albury Land District, within the suburban area.
Germananton.—115 acres in 8 blocks; areas ran
 from 9 to 17 acres; distant about 1 mile from Ger-
 mananton and 18 miles from Culcairn; capital value
 £5 per acre; will be available 14th April, 1898.

The following areas will become available Thursday, the 17th instant :—

RYE HOMESTEAD SELECTION.

FOR SETTLEMENT LEASE.
Land District of Gunnedah, on Bomera Holding
—1 farm, 5100 acres.
Land District of Nyngan, on Gunningbar Hol

The fourth edition of the pamphlet contains particulars of all Crown lands available for Homestead Selection and Settlement Lands throughout the Territory, and copies of the same may be obtained at the Government Printing Office, the Information Bureau, Lands Department; or from any Crown Lands Agent. Price, 6d.

Lands Department "Weekly Gazette,"—For particulars are given in this "Gazette" of the lands made being made available for settlement, and, in addition, all the notifications issued by the Department of Lands, and published in the ordinary "Gazette," appear in this issue. The terms subscription are 6s per quarter, and applications should be made to the Government Printer.

the points being rounded by a new process. Seven prize medals awarded. Sold by all storekeepers. Works, Birmingham, England.—Advt.

Metropolitan District Court, upon appeal on Feb-
 22, 1907, *at New York*, *Att. Gen. Mallett, & Kettleson, Redfern,*

TWO Young Ladies, good appearance, would like a

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